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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

HAIR et al

Group Art Unit: 2873

Appln. No: 09/729,853

Examiner: Lester, E.

Filing Date: March 3, 1999

Title: OPTICAL VEND-SENSING SYSTEM
FOR CONTROL OF VENDING MACHINE

* * * * *

July 25, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

EX. COPY RECEIVED
JUL 25 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 280

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 34-37 and 40-57, without prejudice or disclaimer.

00/03/2001 SSURLES 00000001 023575 88728053
Kindly add the following new claims 58-130:

01 FC:202	455.00 CH
02 FC:202	40.00 CH
03 FC:207	135.00 CH

58. (New) A vending machine, comprising:

a transparent front portion allowing display of products to be vended;

a dispensing mechanism configured to perform vending operations in order

to dispense a product selected by a consumer;

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Inventor(s): HAIR et al.
 Appln. No.: 09 | 729,853
 Series Code ↑ | Serial No. ↑

Group Art Unit 2873
 Examiner: Lester, E.
 Atty. Dkt. P 271810

Filed: March 3, 1999
 Hon. Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Appln. Title: OPTICAL VEND-SENSING SYSTEM
 FOR CONTROL OF VENDING
 MACHINE

Sir:

REPLY/AMENDMENT/LETTER

Date: July 25, 2001

This is a reply/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated herein by reference and the signature below is treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. Small Entity claim A. <input type="checkbox"/> NOT made B. <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn C. <input type="checkbox"/> made herewith D. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> made previously		For B & C See <u>Required</u> <u>Separate Paper</u> (Pat-256)		Claims remaining after amendment		Highest number previously paid for		Present Extra		Large/Small Entity		Additional Fee		Fee Code Lg/Sm			
2. Total Effective Claims				77		**minus 22		55		x \$18/\$9 =		+ \$495		103/203			
3. Independent Claims				4		***minus 3		1		x \$80/\$40 =		+ \$40		102/202			
4. If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (leave blank if this is a reissue application) add										+ \$270/\$135 =		+ \$135		104/204			
5. Original due Date:										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE							
6. Petition is hereby made to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached										(1 mo) \$110/\$55 =		+ \$0		(115/215)			
										(2 mos) \$390/\$195 =				(116/216)			
										(3 mos) \$890/\$445 =				(117/217)			
										(Usable only for ≤ 2mo.OA --- 4 mos) \$1390/\$695=				(118/218)			
										(Usable only for 30 day/1mo.OA --- 5 mos) \$1890/\$945=				(128/228)			
7. Enter any previous extension fee paid since above original due date and subtract										- \$0							
8.										Extension Fee Attached		+ \$0					
9. If Terminal Disclaimer attached, add Rule 20(d) official fee										+ \$110/\$55		+ \$0				148/248	
10. If IDS attached requires Official Fee under Rule 97 (c), add										+ \$180		+ \$0				126	
or if Rule 97(d) Request add										+ \$180		+ \$0				126	
11. After-Final Request Fee per rules 129(a) and 17(r)										+ \$710/355		+ \$0				146/246	
12. No. of additional inventions for examination per Rule 129(b).....										x \$710/355 ea		+ \$0				149/249	
13. Request for Continued Examination (RCE)										+ \$710/355		+ \$0				1179/1279	
14. Petition fee for												+ \$0					
15.										TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED =		\$670					

16. *If the entry in this space is less than entry in next space, the "Present Extra" result is "0".

17. **If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

18. ***If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975)

(Our Order No. 71361 | 271810

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CHARGE STATEMENT: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

Query: Is appeal deadline now? If so, file Notice of Appeals separately.

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NOTE: File this cover sheet in duplicate with PTO receipt (PAT-103A) and attachments

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USPTO:

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE CLEAR RECEIPT OF ALL PAGES INDICATED
ABOVE BY FAXING THIS PAGE BACK TO OUR FACSIMILE NUMBER
STATED ABOVE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Inventor(s) HAIR et al.

Appln. No. 09/729,853

series code ↑ serial no.

Filed: December 6, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2873

Examiner: Evelyn Lester

Atty. Dkt. PM 271810

M#

Date: July 25, 2001

TITLE: OPTICAL VEND-SENSING SYSTEM
FOR CONTROL OF VENDING
MACHINE

Name or type of signed paper being transmitted:
Preliminary Amendment

MESSAGE:

**Copy of Preliminary Amendment - Please Hand
Carry to Examiner Evelyn Lester, Art Unit 2873,
Room: CP4-4E10.**

(ATTN: Atty/Sec.: Transmit only one paper herewith. For papers not acceptable by fax, see back side or LAN
Forms Directory PAT-286 Rear. Do not file originals but fasten them in our file (left side) with
this sheet and fax receipt on top. Do NOT send the originals nor a confirmation copy to the PTO.)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent
and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name Kenneth Mahal Sig. _____

Date

7/25/01

71361/271810

C# / M#